

The Rush County Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 14th, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. with Norman Winkler, Chairman, John Pavey, Gerald Mohr, Warren Norris, Bruce Levi, Kevin Spilman, Jerry Kent, Leigh Morning, Attorney, and Deborah Adams, Auditor in attendance.

Chairman, Norman Winkler called the meeting to order. Minutes of the March 8th, 2010 meeting were approved on a motion by Kevin Spilman, seconded by John Pavey. Motion carried.

LOIT

Gary Malone of H. J. Umbaugh & Associates appeared before the council as requested during their March 8th meeting. Malone reviewed a prepared tax analysis regarding the estimated circuit breaker tax credit impact of proposed LOIT (Local Option Income Taxes) for Rush County.

The council were able to look closely at “Option A” and “Option B” offered as part of LOIT. Malone informed the council that there is no “*ONE*” answer to LOIT.

Further discussion was held on the time line of adoption of LOIT. The council discussed having a public hearing during their June meeting.

CHERRY STREET PROJECT

Jason Semler of H.J. Umbaugh & Associates also appeared before the council to discuss a proposed TIF for the Cherry Street Project. Semler explained that the City of Rushville has reached its debt limit and the county currently has zero debt. Semler asked the county council to consider the possibility of allowing a portion of the county EDIT money (\$160,000.00) yearly to go towards the project if the city financing goes south, and less bonding power.

Treasurer Mary Ann Beard questioned as to the prediction on what EDIT will do in the future especially with Rush County having a 10% unemployment rate. Semler estimated roughly a 15% decrease in EDIT revenue.

RUSH MEMORIAL AMBULANCE

Brad Smith, CEO of Rush Memorial Hospital reviewed with the council the 2009 Ambulance Service Department Volume Report. Smith reported that a \$200,269.00 credit is available from 2009 for the county to use towards expenses for 2010.

Smith reviewed the first quarter Ambulance Service Department Volume Report for 2010 with the council. Smith reported that Rush Memorial is looking at a 3% increase in Medicare reimbursement this year. Smith explained that he has prepared an EMS crew log sheet which would allow the crew to hospital related duties. This would assist, if approved by Medicare the reimbursements and costs savings to the county.

HEALTH MAINTENANCE TOBACCO

Terri Nigh was present on behalf of the Health department asking for a transfer of appropriations to clean up the Environmentalist position as discussed and acted upon during the March meeting.

- \$995.00 was transferred from #107-1000-3-2 (Health Maint. Cont) to #107-1000-1-3 (FICA) on a motion by John Pavey, seconded by Kevin Spilman. Motion carried.
- \$22,164.00 was transferred from #107-1000-3-10 (Health Maint P/T Envir Contract) to #107-1000-1-2 (Health Maint Tob P/T) on a motion by Warren Norris, seconded by John Pavey. Motion carried.
- \$12,004.00 was transferred from #107-1000-3-2 (Health Maint Tob. Contract) to #107-1000-1-1 (Tobacco Aides Salary) on a motion by Kevin Spilman, seconded by Gerald Mohr. Motion carried.
- \$1,836.00 was transferred from #107-1000-3-10 (Health Maint Tobacco P/T Env) to #107-1000-1-3 (FICA) on a motion by Bruce Levi, seconded by John Pavey. Motion carried.

Nigh reminded the council that these positions will be returned to the health department Budget for the 2011 budget year.

TREASURER

Mary Ann Beard, Treasurer, reported that the property tax statements were mailed Monday at the cost of .55 per statement.

SOLID WASTE

The council approved Resolution 2010-1 authorizing a \$20,000.00 loan from the Cumulative Capital Development Development Fund (#19) to Rush County Solid Waste District on a motion from Jerry Kent, seconded by Bruce Levi. Motion carried.

Insert resolution here

The council approved the Interlocal Agreement between the County and the Solid Waste District on a motion by Warren Norris, seconded by Kevin Spilman. Motion carried. Leigh Morning, County Attorney, noted that the contract could be terminated with sixty (60) days notice.

COUNTY EXTENSION

Kristi Amos, Extension Educator, reported that County Ag Day was Tuesday. The recently held sewing seminar had a huge attendance and the office is in the middle of organizing the fair.

ECDC

Ken Masters, Commissioner, reported that a public meeting will be held Thursday April 22 at 2:00 pm in the assembly room of the courthouse. Masters invited the council to attend. Also attending will be the county commissioners, city council, county surveyor, and highway superintendent. Brad Buening will contact the media to notify them of the public meeting as required by "open door law". Masters reported that the meeting will be regarding the EDA Grant for the Cherry Street Project.

SHERIFF

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, reported forty-nine (49) inmates currently housed in the Rush County jail. Sherwood reported that the inmate count has been high since November and is reflecting in the meal cost and budget. Sherwood clarified an earlier council meeting discussion concerning DOC reimbursement. The state does not give 100% reimbursement on all inmates only on DOC inmates Sherwood explained.

Sherwood reported that McCready-Keene proposed 32% county contribution for the year 2010. The county has budgeted \$180,000.00 for the 2010 contribution. McCready-Keene is recommending \$144,750.00 for the year 2010. The consensus of the council was for Sherwood to proceed with the \$180,000.00 contribution as budgeted.

Sherwood did note that McCready-Keene has proposed 30.8% pension for the county contribution for 2011. Sherwood also informed the council that McCready-Keene also would like to talk to the merit board about a disability benefit plan that would come against the pension.

Sherwood announced that Merit Deputy Jim Owens is retiring August 1st. Sherwood also reminded the council that Merit Deputy Mark Click will be retiring at the end of the 2010 year. The department will be looking at two (2) replacements. Sherwood asked for direction as to how to proceed due to the budget crunch that the county is currently experiencing. The council instructed Sherwood to look at hiring a replacement for Deputy Owens position and keep in mind the second position during budget discussions.

The council passed on the jail tour as discussed during their March council meeting.

WIRELESS E-911

The council approved an additional appropriation of \$100,000.00 on a motion by Gerald Mohr, seconded by Warren Norris. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

Deborah Adams, Auditor, reviewed the general fund balance with the council. Adams stated that budgets are very tight and that she has already submitted paper work asking for an advance draw for the general fund.

Adams asked that the council approve the amended salary ordinance to accommodate the changes to the Health Maint Tobacco Supplement Department Fund #107. Kevin Spilman

made the motion to approve the amended salary ordinance, John Pavey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Insert ordinance here

HEALTH INSURANCE

Jerry Kent reported that the committee will be meeting next week to change provider and Broker. The committee will make their recommendation to the commissioners in May.

WHEEL TAX

Discussion was held to increase and adopt wheel tax by July 1st to be effective January 1, 2011. The public hearing for the wheel tax would be held during the May meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 10:40 a.m. was initiated by Bruce Levi. Gerald Mohr seconded the motion, motion carried.

Norman Winkler, Chairman

John Pavey

Gerald Mohr

Warren Norris

Bruce Levi

Kevin Spilman

Jerry Kent

ATTEST:

Deborah C. Adams, Auditor